

REMARKS

The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for thoroughly reviewing and considering the pending application. The Office Action dated April 24, 2006 has been received and carefully reviewed. Claim 6 has been amended. Claims 1-20 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Initially, the Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-20 include allowable subject matter.

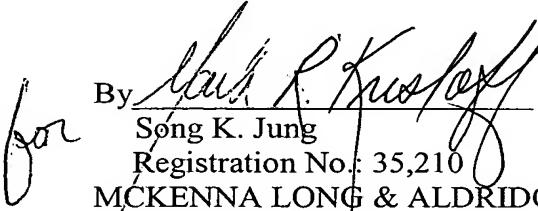
The Office Action noted that amendments made to the claims, specification, and drawings in the amendments filed on October 8, 2003 and April 6, 2005 do not comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.173(b). The Applicants have addressed these issues and noted above and submit that these amendments comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.173(b).

The application is in a condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner believes a conversation with the Applicant's representative would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: May 24, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 3. This sheet replaces the original sheet including FIG. 3. In FIG. 3, a minor typographical error has been corrected.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
 Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

ANNOTATED SHEET

U.S. Patent

Jul. 1, 2003

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Fig. 3

